

which people could lead the kinds of lives that our country cherishes and honors.

Cesar Chavez was a Navy veteran who, perhaps, during World War II was disappointed in the way that segregation existed in the armed services; but it gave him the passion to go out and do the kind of work that today we celebrate: a legacy that was adopted by President Obama from the words of Cesar Chavez, who always thought, “Si, se puede.” Yes, we can.

So, today, I proudly stand here and remind us that we have so much to be grateful for from those who have advocated in our respective communities—Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King, and so many others.

OBAMACARE

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. President Obama's ObamaCare plan not only raises many constitutional questions, but it is creating an environment where younger Americans, like my little nephew, Preston James Hunter, who was born last night, will be forced to live in a world with less choice and higher health care costs.

As the cost of health care rises, we are seeing that taxpayers are on the hook for even more money. We all know that this bill pulled \$500 billion out of Medicare, and now we're learning that over the next few years the States are going to have to pay another \$620 billion for Medicaid expenditures. Yes, \$620 billion for Medicaid expenditures. In Tennessee, my home State, TennCare estimates that the health care law will increase TennCare enrollment by 242,291 people. That is at an extra cost of \$225 million a year. Those are just the estimates.

While the President and Democrats in Washington are raiding Medicare, Republicans in the House are fighting back and are working to protect Medicare for our seniors. As for the job-killing aspect of ObamaCare, we now find 20 new and increased taxes that are in this bill, taxes that are affecting American families and employers.

We simply cannot afford a forced health care plan that doesn't work, that raises taxes, and that many Americans believe is unconstitutional.

CESAR E. CHAVEZ

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a great civil activist, Cesar E. Chavez. This week, we celebrate the life of a man who symbolizes dignity and respect and who would have turned 85 years old on March 31.

He was a farm laborer, a leader, a co-founder of the United Farm Workers, and a veteran. He brought social jus-

tice to migrant workers and communities, which included better pay, improving housing, outlawing the child labor law, and human dignity. He achieved all of this through the use of nonviolence.

For over 10 years, I have worked to create a national holiday to commemorate Cesar Chavez. Please join me in celebrating the life of a great American hero by supporting my legislation, House Resolution 130, which designates the fourth Friday of every March as Cesar E. Chavez Day.

Martin Luther King, Jr., once telegraphed Cesar Chavez with a message: “Our separate struggles are really one—a struggle for freedom, for dignity, and for humanity.”

The legacy of Cesar Chavez will continue to inspire not only Latinos but people across our Nation who believe in the American Dream. “Si, se puede”—yes, we can.

INVESTING IN DOMESTIC ENERGY

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, this week, the Chicagoland region hit a record—a record high for gas prices. Gas is \$4.51 a gallon in the 10th District of Illinois and is about \$4.67 in the city of Chicago. At a time when family budgets are stretched to their limits, rising gas prices are contributing to many things, including that of rising food prices and skyrocketing bills at the pump.

My energy plan includes investing in domestic energy and in implementing an all-of-the-above approach because these are bipartisan ideas that we can and should support. Not only will this help reduce our dependence on foreign oil, but it will help create jobs right here at home and lower the cost of energy for small businesses and families across the country.

We must continue to explore environmentally friendly forms of energy while utilizing the resources we have here at home. Let's come together on this important issue so that hardworking taxpayers and hardworking families can be assured that we are listening and are putting their concerns above political rhetoric.

COMMENDING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S COMMITMENT TO MIDDLE CLASS SECURITY

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, over the past 3 years, President Obama has passed legislation, has introduced crucial programs, and has offered important tax incentives to restore economic security to middle class families across our Nation.

Immediately after assuming office, President Obama created a middle

class task force that is targeted at raising middle class living standards and at giving the middle class a voice in the White House. President Obama also expanded small business loan programs in order to give small business owners access to credit and in order to boost job creation. He also extended the 2010 payroll tax cut through 2012 to give the average working family \$1,000 a year and to give increased Federal student aid to low-income college students.

Mr. Speaker, I commend President Obama's bold leadership and vision, and I commend him for his commitment to restoring economic security for our middle class families across America.

FISCAL SOLVENCY UNDER THE REPUBLICAN HOUSE BUDGET

(Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Our Nation is currently standing at a critical crossroads. Should Washington weigh deeper into the red or should we continue cutting spending and get our Nation on the track towards fiscal solvency under the House Republican budget, which cuts more than \$5 trillion while preventing the President's tax increases?

In addition to paving the way for our Nation to get back on track towards economic security and prosperity, the Republican budget also puts forward bipartisan solutions to save and strengthen Medicare for current seniors and for our children and grandchildren.

Under our current trajectory, Medicare will be bankrupt in just a decade. This plan preserves current Medicare plans for those in and nearing retirement while offering guaranteed coverage options for future seniors, including those with preexisting conditions or tough health histories. It is financed by a premium support payment which would provide more assistance to low-income and less healthy seniors. The Medicare plans will compete against one another, which ultimately will create lower costs and a better quality of care.

The budget refuels our economy to create an environment for businesses to grow jobs with fundamental tax reform, protects the security of health and retirement plans, and begins to reduce our deficit now to leave our children with a country free from debt.

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REJECT THE REPUBLICAN BUDGET PROPOSAL

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Republican budget proposal offered by Mr.